

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forms Under Review by Office of Management and Budget

January 13, 1995.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted to OMB for review the following proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) since the last list was published. This list is grouped into new proposals, revisions, extension, or reinstatements. Each entry contains the following information:

(1) Agency proposing the information collection; (2) Title the information collection; (3) Form number(s), if applicable (4) Who will be required or asked to report; (5) An estimate of the number of responses; (6) An estimate of the total number of hours needed to provide the information; (7) Name and telephone number of the agency contact person.

Questions about the items in the listing should be directed to the agency person named at the end of each entry. Copies of the proposed forms and supporting documents may be obtained from:

Department Clearance Officer, USDA,
OIRM, Room 404-W Admin. Bldg.,
Washington, D.C. 20250, (202) 690-
2118.

Revision

- Foreign Agricultural Service
Application for Supplementary Dairy
Product Import Licenses—Addendum
FAS 922, 923, 923A, 923B, 924
Individuals or households; Business or
other for-profit; 955 responses; 713
hours
Richard Warsack, (202) 720-1342
- Rural Economic & Community
Development
7 CFR 1943-A, Insured Farm
Ownership Loan Policies, Procedures,
and Authorizations

Individuals or households; Farms; 370
responses; 130 hours
Jack Holston, (202) 720-9736

Extension

- Animal Plant and Health Inspection
Service
Imported Fire Ant
PPQ 523
State or local governments; Farms;
Businesses or other for-profit; Federal
agencies or employees; Small
businesses or organizations; 39,441
responses; 26,695 hours
Mike Stefan, (301) 436-8247

Reinstatement

- Rural Economic & Community
Development
7 CFR 4284-B, Rural Business
Enterprise Grants and Television
Demonstration Grants
Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local,
or Tribal Government; 7,030
responses; 13,695 hours
Jack Holston, (202) 720-9736

New Collection

- Food Safety and Inspection Service
Official Marking Device, Labeling, and
Packaging Material—Addendum 5—
Use of the Term "Fresh" on the
Labeling of Raw Poultry Products
FSIS Form 7234-1
Business or other for-profit; 4,800
responses; 3,000 hours
Lee Puricelli, (202) 720-7163
 - Agricultural Stabilization and
Conservation Service
7 CFR Part 782—End-Use Certificate
Program—Final Rule ASCS-750,
ASCS-751
Businesses or other for-profit; Farms;
20,579 responses; 37,682 hours
Helen Linden, (202) 690-4321
- Larry K. Roberson,**
Deputy Departmental Clearance Officer.
[FR Doc. 95-1419 Filed 1-19-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-01-M

Forest Service

Southwestern Region, New Mexico, La Cueva Proposed Projects

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Carson National Forest is planning to prepare an environmental impact statement on a proposal to

allocate old growth, apply vegetation treatments and use prescribed fire in certain forested stands, construct new roads and reconstruct roads to access these stands, redesignate an existing motorized trail and construct a new trail for motorized use and close roads on the La Cueva analysis area in the Rio Pueblo Canyon, Camino Real Ranger District. The need for this proposal is based upon the comparison of existing conditions and desired conditions for the La Cueva analysis area.

DATES: Comments in response to this Notice of Intent concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by February 1, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to USDA Forest Service, Carson National Forest, PO Box 558, Taos, New Mexico 87571, ATTN: Forest Planner.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Leonard Lucero, the Forest Supervisor for the Carson National Forest, will be the responsible official and will decide whether or not to:

- Allocate old growth, if so, how much, where.
- Harvest sawtimber and other wood products, if so, where, what treatments will be used, what associated road construction, what post sale treatments (pre-commercial thinning, prescribed burning, etc.) will occur.
- Allow prescribed fire, if so, where and under what conditions.
- Redesignate the La Cueva Canyon trail to non-motorized use only.
- Construct a new trail for motorized use.
- Physically close roads within the analysis area, if so how many miles, and where.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Forest Planner (505) 758-6210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the difference between existing and desired conditions. This proposal is designed to move closer to the desired condition.

Twenty percent of forested acres would be allocated to old growth to meet the objectives of the Carson Forest Plan.

Some trees would be harvested for timber, made available for fuelwood and/or thinned for the purpose of:

- Moving towards a desired VSS class distribution that reduces the amount of VSS class 3 and 4 and increases the amount of Class 1, 2 and 5 to create

more biodiversity in the La Cueva analysis area.

- Supplying more forage producing understories for wildlife in summer and winter range and livestock where early seral conditions have been inhibited by tree density and/or dense canopy cover.

- Providing foraging areas for both wildlife and livestock away from springs and riparian areas in order to improve the condition of these special features.

- Regenerating pure aspen stands which would create more habitat diversity and perpetuate a major vegetative component within the analysis area.

- Regenerating ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir trees in their natural range. These forest types provide quality habitat to the hairy woodpecker, turkey, elk and Abert's squirrel.

- Selectively removing some trees infested with mistletoe or damaged by spruce budworm to keep insect and disease populations at a level which does not predispose stands to potential catastrophic damage. Providing a supply of firewood, vigas, aspen products and saw timber to help meet the demand for wood products on the Camino Real Ranger District for a period of five to seven years.

Prescribed fire would be introduced in selected areas for the purpose of:

- Introducing low intensity fires back into the ecosystem to move the VSS Class distribution towards the desired condition and to perpetuate plant species adapted to periodic episodes of fire.

- Stimulating mature oak to produce palatable, tender shoots for wildlife browse species.

- Creating a mosaic of tree sizes and densities, where clumps of even-aged trees with interlocking branches are dispersed throughout some stands.

- Reducing fuel loading in areas inaccessible to fuelwood gathering to reduce the potential for a catastrophic fire.

Road reconstruction and new construction, including a road down the ridge between La Cueva and Flechado Canyons, would provide access to areas where the VSS class distribution can be moved towards the desired condition, where forage is needed, where various types of wood products could be extracted and where fuel loading is high. These roads would be closed to highway vehicles once proposed activities have ceased.

The redesignation of the La Cueva Canyon Trail as a non-motorized trail would improve the quality of life for residents who have houses at or near the La Cueva trailhead and reduce conflicts

between these homeowners and the motorized recreationists who use the area.

The construction of a motorized trail connecting with the new road along the ridge between La Cueva and Flechado would serve as a replacement for the La Cueva Canyon trail which would be removed from the motorized trail system (See previous paragraph), maintaining the same opportunities for motorized use in the analysis area.

All existing and newly constructed roads would be effectively closed after management activities have been completed within the analysis area. This is in keeping with the Carson Forest Plan which has a guideline which specifies that road management/wildlife integration should be managed to provide 60 percent big game habitat effectiveness by leaving approximately 1.0 mile/square mile of roads open to public use in big game summer range.

Preliminary issues include effects on habitat effectiveness along the ridge separating La Cueva and Flechado canyons where a new road is proposed; the long-term effects on wildlife along the ridge where the new road will be designated as a motorized trail; the effects on the function of existing old growth proposed for timber harvesting; and the effects on soil productivity and water quality where a motorized trail is proposed. These issues will be refined and developed in detail as scoping proceeds. Comments on this issues and suggestions for additional issues are welcome in response to this Notice of Intent.

A preliminary scoping meeting was held prior to the development of the desired condition statement and proposal. Several months later, approximately 150 letters were sent out to the public and other federal and state agencies for their comments on the proposal and a field trip was held. An interdisciplinary team has been selected to do the environmental analysis, prepare and accomplish scoping and public involvement activities.

Comments on the nature and timing of scoping and public participation activities would be beneficial to the team in preparation of the scoping plan. Additional public notice will be given of specific planned activities when the scoping and public involvement plan is developed.

Preliminary alternatives may include continuation of present management in the area (no action); redesignating the La Cueva trail as non-motorized without building a new trail; relocating part of the La Cueva trail; confining harvesting and road building to the northern most part of the analysis area; creating the

desired diversity on the ridge top(s) without harvesting or road building; and not treating any existing old growth stands. The interdisciplinary team will be developing the range of alternatives to be considered and comments on the range of alternatives to be considered will be beneficial. Additional opportunities to comment on alternatives will be provided as the process proceeds.

It is anticipated that the environmental analysis and preparation of draft and final environmental impact statement will take about one year. The draft environmental impact statement can be expanded in the summer of 1995 and the final environmental impact statement can be expected in the winter 1995.

A ninety day comment period pursuant to 36 CFR 219.10(b) will be provided for the public to make comments on the draft environmental impact statement. The comment period will begin when the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability appears in the **Federal Register**. This comment period will be in addition to scoping and other public participation opportunities that will be provided throughout the process. A record of decision will be prepared and filed with the final environmental impact statement. A ninety day appeal period pursuant to 36 CFR 217.8(a) will be applicable.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. To be the most helpful, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the alternatives discussed (see Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3).

In addition, Federal court decisions have established that reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC* 435 US 519, 553 (1978). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, (9th Circuit, 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980).

The reason for this is to ensure that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final.

Dated: January 4, 1995.

Leonard L. Lucero,

Forest Supervisor, Carson National Forest.

[FR Doc. 95-1374 Filed 1-19-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Sandy Creek Watershed, North Carolina; Notice to Deauthorize Federal Funding

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Deauthorize Federal Funding.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Public Law 83-566, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR 622), the Natural Resources Conservation Service gives notice of the intent to deauthorize Federal funding for the Sandy Creek Watershed project, Cumberland County, North Carolina.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard A. Gallo, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205, Raleigh, NC 27609, telephone: 919/790-2888.

Sandy Creek Watershed, North Carolina—Notice of Intent to Deauthorize Federal Funding

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A determination has been made by Richard A. Gallo that the proposed works of improvement for the Sandy Creek Watershed project will not be installed. Information regarding this determination may be obtained from Richard A. Gallo, State Conservationist, at the above address and telephone number.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposed deauthorization will be taken until 60 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-95 regarding State and local clearinghouse review of Federal and federally assisted programs and projects is applicable)

Dated: January 3, 1995.

Richard A. Gallo,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 95-1470 Filed 1-19-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

Rural Utilities Service

Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation; Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) with respect to its action related to the construction and operation of a hydropower project on the Arkansas River by Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC). The FONSI is based on a Borrower's Environmental Report submitted to RUS by AECC. RUS conducted an independent evaluation of the report and concurs with its scope and content. In accordance with Environmental Policies and Procedures published by the Rural Electrification Administration, the predecessor of RUS, at 7 CFR 1794.61, RUS has adopted the borrower's environmental report as its environmental assessment for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lawrence R. Wolfe, Chief, Environmental Compliance Branch, Electric Staff Division, RUS, South Agriculture Building, Washington, D.C. 20250, telephone (202) 720-1784.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The hydropower project is to be constructed at the existing Corps of Engineers Dam #2 in Desha County, Arkansas, approximately 12 miles northeast of Dumas, Arkansas. It will have an installed capacity of 108 megawatts. The powerhouse for the project will be located on the west side of the Arkansas River west of the right abutment of Dam #2. The powerhouse will be approximately 180 feet wide and 225 feet long. Water to operate the turbines in the powerhouse will be diverted from the Arkansas River via a headrace channel and back into the river via a tailrace channel. The turbines will operate under a net head ranging from 5 to 37 feet. The project will include a 115 kV switching station and one span of 115 kV transmission line. The entire project will require approximately 180 acres of land all of which is government owned.

RUS considered the alternative of no action as opposed to approving AECC's request to use its general funds or provide a lien accommodation for financing construction of the project. Under the no action alternative, RUS would not approve AECC's use of general funds or provide AECC a lien accommodation. The no action alternative was not the selected alternative as AECC believes that it has an opportunity to construct a renewable generation resource at the Corps of Engineers Dam #2 and reduce its overall dependence on fossil fuel fired generation plants and that such construction is consistent with the objectives of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Copies of the environmental assessment and FONSI are available for review at, or can be obtained from, RUS at the address provided herein or from Mr. Curtis Q. Warner, Principle Engineer, Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation, 8000 Scott Hamilton Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72219-4208, telephone (501) 570-2462.

Dated: January 13, 1995.

Adam M. Golodner,

Deputy Administrator, Program Operations.

[FR Doc. 95-1421 Filed 1-19-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the California Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the California Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 2:00 p.m. on February 4, 1995, at the Radisson Huntley Hotel, 1111 Second Street, Santa Monica, California 90403. The purpose of the meeting is discussion of ongoing followup to the media project and planning for the Orange County forum.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Michael C. Carney, or Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-0508). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.